(c) to (e) SIDBI is expanding the scope of its activities in Himachal Pradesh and Orissa both by way of providing loans as well as under Promotional and Developmental field. It has recently opened a new Branch Office at Baddi in H.P. During the current financial year and upto October 31, 2005, SIDBI has sanctioned assistance of Rs. 39.73 crore to 52 SSI units in HP and Rs. 43.37 crore to 18 SSI units in Orissa. To upscale the assistance under Micro Credit to around Rs. 50 crore during the next 2 years in Orissa, 3 agencies have already been released for Capacity Assessment Rating.

Bilateral investment protection agreement with foreign oil investors

637. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministries of Finance and Commerce and Industry are considering a proposal to give foreign oil investors under 40 odd bilateral investment protection agreement, national treatment prior to their establishment in India;

(b) if so, whether FDI and portfolio investment in sectors which are delicensed and wherein 100 per cent FDI is allowed through automatic route, would be treated at par with domestic investors for all regulatory purposes;

(c) whether Ministries of Finance and Commerce and Industry have been asked to weigh pros and cons; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Issue of pension norms by PFRDA

638. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority has issued norms for fund managers alongwith the investment pattern of various pension schemes;

(b) if so, the details of the norms;

(c) whether the PFRDA has specified the minimum regulatory requirement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) In compliance with the recommendations contained in the twenty-first report of the departmentally related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance, laid before the Fourteenth Lok Sabha, a preliminary draft of the broad contours of regulations on registration of intermediaries have been prepared by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and placed on the website of the Ministry of Finance (www.finmin.nic.in), for comments from the public and other stakeholders. These draft regulations, *inter-alia*, mention that PFRDA would consider registering an entity as a fund manager on the basis of the following parameters: satisfying minimum capital requirement criteria; past track record, including the ability to provide guaranteed returns; cost and fee structure; customer base; information technology capabilities human resources and other related matters.

Further, it is also mentioned in the draft that it is proposed to offer four schemes to subscribers, with an investment pattern varying from a 100 government debt scheme, to a growth plan in which upto 50% could be invested in an equity based index.

Suspension of ICICI Bank Officials

639. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICICI bank has recently suspended some staffers from the treasury department for overstepping trading transaction limits allotted to them;

(b) if so, the quantum of loss incurred by the bank through this lapse; and

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to all banks to put in place a prudent Risk Management System to maintain a sense of discipline?